Initial claims backlog is defined as claims filed that take more than 21 days to issue first payment or disqualification, regardless if the claimant or EDD need to take some type of action.

Status	1/14/21	1/15/21	1/16/21	1/17/21	1/18/21	1/19/21	1/20/21	1 Day ∆	
(1) Pending Application Processing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
(2) Verifying Wages on a Claim	491	487	442	440	440	465	384	-81	-17.4%
(3) Resolving Other Eligibility Issues	30,945	34,503	36,844	48,272	56,410	60,409	59,260	-1,149	-1.9%
(4) Waiting for Claimant Certification	748,949	785,875	786,840	836,334	853,966	854,294	858,456	+4,162	+0.5%
(5) Subtotal of 1-4	780,385	820,865	824,126	885,046	910,816	915,168	918,100	+2,932	+0.3%
(6) Total Unique Claimants	779,733	820,053	823,184	883,999	909,605	913,738	916,531	+2,793	+0.3%



- (1) Applications received that are pending EDD staff review to file the claim.
- (2) Applications processed but awaiting EDD work to add or remove verified wages that fund the claim. (Manual process of verifying wages reported by employer(s) are connected with the verified worker, and meets at least the minimum required earnings for payment. For example, adustments are made once a claimant's identity is verified or a wage investigation is complete.)
- (3) Application and/or first certification processed but pending resolution of other eligibility issues based upon information provided by the claimant. (Issues that can delay processing include verifying the legal right to work in the U.S., and resolving a mistake made on the application. The process of verifying an identity can take longer to collect identity documents from claimants, verify them, and then forward to status category #2 for adding verified wages to the claim for payment.)
- (4) Pending claimant submission of their first bi-weekly certification before eligibility for payment can be determined. (Certifying is the process of answering a set of questions every two weeks that confirms ongoing eligibility for payment. However, a portion of claimants have historically never completed their certification by choice and become ineligible for payment. Examples include they've gone back to work, or they've removed themselves from the labor market, among others.)
- (5) Total of four categories above. (Because workload can bounce from one category to another, a claim can appear in more than one category. For example, a claimant could request for more wages to be added to their claim in status category #2 and EDD is also resolving a mistake made on their application in status category #3.)
- (6) Total unique claimants. (Represents total number of individuals with eligibility issues taking longer than 21 days to determine eligibility for benefits.)